

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A method of manufacturing a bobbin of plastic comprising:
injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel, the one piece U-shaped channel having a plurality of cylinder elements, ~~and two circumferential end flanges and inner grooves between adjacent cylinder elements~~, each of the plurality of cylinder elements has a curved, radially inner surface and each end flange includes a plurality of spaced-apart, radial flange elements;

bending the U-shaped channel until sides of the inner grooves abut each other; and
connecting ends of the U-shaped channel with each other in a position so the curved, radially inner surface of the plurality of each cylinder elements ~~element abuts against two adjacent cylinder elements to form an inner circumference of a cylinder~~.

9. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the connecting includes inserting into holes formed in a cylinder element of the U-shaped channel at a first end of the U-shaped channel protrusions formed on a projection at a second end of the U-shaped channel.

10. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel includes forming the inner transverse inner grooves which extend an entire width of the U-shaped channel ~~between a point between two adjoining flange elements of one end flange and a point between and a point between two adjoining flange elements of the other end flange~~.

11. (Previously Presented) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel includes providing at an end of each flange element connected with a cylinder element of the U-shaped channel a lug which extends past the cylinder element and has an extent decreasing in a longitudinal direction of the U-shaped channel, and

the bending the U-shaped channel to form a cylinder includes bending the U-shaped channel until each lug is brought into abutment against a neighbouring lug.

12. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the injection moulding a one piece U-shaped channel includes forming ~~transverse~~ outer grooves which extend an the entire width of the U-shaped channel ~~between a point between two adjoining flange elements of one end flange and a point between two adjoining flange elements of the other end flange.~~

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) A bobbin of plastic comprising:

a one-piece injection moulded U-shaped channel,

wherein the U-shaped channel includes a plurality of cylinder elements each having a curved radially inner surface at the time the U-shaped channel is injection moulded and prior to the U-shaped channel being bent to form a cylinder, so that when the U-shaped channel is bent to form the cylinder, the curved radially inner surface of each cylinder element is connected to at least one adjacent cylinder element by plastic thinner than the at least one adjacent cylinder element and abuts against two adjacent cylinder elements to form an inner circumference of the cylinder.

15. (Previously Presented) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, wherein the U-shaped channel includes two end flanges, each end flange having a plurality of flange elements having a constant extension in a circumferential direction that is equal to the circumference of the cylinder.

16. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in a radially outer surface of the U-shaped channel that is an outer circumferential surface of the cylinder, each groove extending an entire width of the U-shaped channel ~~length~~ between two adjacent cylinder elements.

17. (Currently Amended) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, in which a plurality of axial grooves are formed in a radially inner surface of the U-shaped channel that is an inner circumferential surface of the cylinder, each groove extending an entire width of the U-shaped channel ~~length~~ between two adjacent cylinder elements.

18. (Previously Presented) A bobbin as claimed in claim 17, in which the plurality of axial grooves formed in the radially inner surface of the U-shaped channel are wedge-shaped in cross-section.

19. (Previously Presented) A bobbin as claimed in claim 15, in which each flange element has a lug at a radially inner end, the lug is shaped to abut an adjacent lug when the U-shaped channel is bent to form the cylinder.

20. (Previously Presented) A bobbin as claimed in claim 14, in which at least one flange

element of one end flange has an articulated projection configured to hook onto the other end flange.

THE REMAINDER OF THIS PAGE IS INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK